



KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

FEBRUARY BOARD NOTES

Volume 21, No. 1 -- Report of the February 6, 2013, Regular Meeting

COMMENTS FROM DAVID KAREM, KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION CHAIR



Two items from the February 6 Kentucky Board of Education meeting are worth highlighting as part of my comments. First, the update on the performance of the 41 Priority Schools was both encouraging and a cause for concern. The board is pleased with the progress of those schools that are on track toward moving out of the low-performing designation. However, for those schools that have made little progress even after three years of assistance, we strongly recommend a hard look by the appropriate districts at the degree to which the leadership of the school and district accepts and even welcomes assistance and how quickly the adult drama ceases to derail process development. These are both factors that greatly impact the speed of progress pointed out by Kentucky Department of Education staff.

The Kentucky Board of Education urges these Priority Schools and their districts to work closely with the educational recovery staff assigned to the schools to reassess what is being done to turn the schools around and immediately address any barriers that are in the way of achieving that goal. The bottom line is that it must be about student learning with all else put aside!

The other topic on which I will comment is the board's legislative agenda. We have four bills that we are asking superintendents and educators to support as they are considered during this session. These bills along with links to the full text of the bills are found below:

- Professional Growth and Effectiveness, [HB 180](#) – Rep. Carl Rollins
Amend KRS 156.557 to update statutory language to reflect the changes to the teacher professional growth and effectiveness system.
- Preschool Funding Formula, [SB 18](#) and [SB 36](#) – Senator Jimmy Higdon
Update 157.3175 and Repeal KRS 157.226 to adjust the funding formula for preschool.

- Career and Technical Education (CTE), [HB 207](#) – Rep. Wilson Stone and Rep. John Carney
Amend various KRS Chapters 12, 151B, 156, 157, 158, 161, 164, and 165 to confirm the executive order issued by Governor Beshear to unite the state’s two career and technical education systems under the Kentucky Department of Education.
- Compulsory School Attendance, [HB 224](#)– Rep. Jeff Greer, [SB 99](#)– Sen. Jimmy Higdon and [SB 97](#)– Sen. David Givens and Sen. Mike Wilson
Amend KRS 159.010 to raise the compulsory school age for attendance from 16 to 18.

All of these bills will support our statewide college- and career-ready agenda and we ask that you join us as partners in advocating for them as they move through the General Assembly.

DISTRICTS OF DISTINCTION RECOGNIZED

Commissioner Terry Holliday and Board Chair David Karem recognized the eight districts that achieved the state’s top rating on the Unbridled Learning: College- and Career-Readiness for All accountability system at the February 6 meeting. These school districts were awarded banners, commendation letters and digital logos to use on their websites, letterhead or publications to signify their achievement as Districts of Distinction.

Each district and the persons present to accept the items associated with the honor were:

- Anchorage Independent – Anchorage Principal Keith Waford and Board Member Lisa Shewmaker
- Beechwood Independent – Superintendent Steve Hutton, Board Chair Melanie Stricker, Beechwood High School Principal Ben Zimmerman and Beechwood Elementary Principal Jamie Flaherty
- Boyle County – Superintendent Mike LaFavers and Board Chair Stephen Tamme
- Corbin Independent – Superintendent Ed McNeel and Board Chair Kim Croley
- Ft. Thomas Independent – Superintendent Gene Kirchner and Board Chair Karen Allen
- Murray Independent – Superintendent Bob Rogers and Board Chair Richard Crouch
- Pikeville Independent – Superintendent Jerry Green
- Walton-Verona Independent – Superintendent Robert Storer and Board Chair Tina Crase

For more information on the Districts of Distinction, contact Mary Ann Miller at (502) 564-3141 or via e-mail at maryann.miller@education.ky.gov.

BOARD HEARS UPDATE ON PGES

Associate Commissioner Felicia Smith updated the Kentucky Board of Education on the status of the new Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES). She shared the following **draft** initial 24 recommendations from the Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness System Steering Committee (listed below) relative to policies that would shape the system. These draft recommendations were for discussion purposes only with no action taken by the board.

Recommendation 1: Tenured teachers will have a summative evaluation every three (3) years.

Recommendation 2: A tenured teacher rated needs improvement, unsatisfactory or ineffective on a summative evaluation shall have a summative evaluation in the next school year.

Recommendation 3: Tenured teachers who are on a corrective action plan will receive a summative evaluation every year until the goals in the corrective action plans are accomplished.

Recommendation: 4: Non-tenured teachers will receive a summative evaluation annually.

Recommendation 5: Each teacher will receive data from all available measures every year.

Recommendation 6: The Kentucky Department of Education will monitor the implementation of the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System in a minimum of 15 school districts every year.

Recommendation 7: Districts implementing alternative plans will be monitored within three (3) years of the initial implementation and thereafter, at the discretion of the Kentucky Department of Education.

Recommendation 8: The Kentucky Department of Education shall provide technical assistance to local districts.

Recommendation 9: The Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness Steering Committee requests to review additional data gathered by the Kentucky Department of Education from the field regarding frequency and duration of observations.

Recommendation 10: The Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness System will include a peer observer.

Recommendation 11: The Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness Steering Committee requests that the Kentucky Department of Education further investigate and share peer observation models with the steering committee for consideration.

Recommendation 12: Before 2014-15 implementation, peer observers shall be trained and certified in observation and providing feedback.

Recommendation 13: Training and certification shall be required for all administrators with evaluation responsibilities.

Recommendation 14: Recertification for observers shall occur at least every three (3) years.

Recommendation 15: All teachers shall develop student growth goals.

Recommendation 16: All teachers have the autonomy to choose, in collaboration with the principal, the student growth goal focus area based on the content standards they are responsible for teaching.

Recommendation 17: Non-assessed area teachers will not share in the state student growth contribution unless the teacher and evaluator, in collaboration, choose to use it.

Recommendation 18: One student growth goal is the minimum required for all teachers. A maximum of two student growth goals may be used if requested by the teacher.

Recommendation 19: All formative data will inform the summative evaluation.

Recommendation 20: A subcommittee of the Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness Steering Committee shall create an outline for the Kentucky Department of Education of a *Student Growth Goal Development Handbook* for writing student growth goals. The handbook shall contain a student growth goals template, strategies and resources for use by teachers in developing student growth goals. The Handbook will contain sections specific to assessed and non-assessed areas.

Recommendation 21: The Teacher Professional Growth and Effectiveness Steering Committee will continue to review field test data as it relates to the attribution of state student growth data to special education teachers.

Recommendation 22: The Kentucky Department of Education will create a uniform statewide training with a set curriculum focused on the student growth goal setting process. The Kentucky Department of Education should consider a certification for trainers.

Recommendation 23: All teachers will use measures of student achievement based on local, state and/or national standards to ensure rigor and comparability across schools in a local education agency to provide reliable, valid evidence of student growth.

Recommendation 24: Professional growth planning shall occur annually.

Additionally, Commissioner Holliday shared some background information that he provided to the Steering Committee at its last meeting about the work up to this point, requirements of Race to the Top and Kentucky's ESEA waiver and consequences of not implementing the PGES. This background information can be found on the board's online site at: <http://portal.ksba.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&PublicMeetingID=8464&AgencyTypeID=1> under agenda item XI. in the document titled "Supporting Documentation". The commissioner emphasized that if the PGES is not implemented per the ESEA waiver requirements, Kentucky's federal funding is put in jeopardy.

It was also shared that legislation in the form of HB180, sponsored by Rep. Carl Rollins, is the bill that would enable the statutory language to be updated to reflect the changes of PGES.

For more information on PGES, contact Felicia Smith at (502) 564-9850 or via e-mail at Felicia.smith@education.ky.gov.

UPDATE ON PERFORMANCE OF THE 41 PRIORITY SCHOOLS

Associate Commissioner Susan Allred presented a report to the board on the progress of the 41 Priority Schools, the lowest-performing schools in the state, on achieving turnaround measures. When asked what the most important factors were in making the turnaround happen, Allred replied that it depended on three factors: (a) the ability of the leadership of the school and district to accept and even welcome the help, (b) the ability of the highly skilled trio of educational recovery personnel to become a team with data as an improvement focus and (c) how quickly the adult drama ceases to derail process development. She also noted that out of the three cohorts of schools classified as Priority Schools, the second and third cohorts of schools have made more progress and the first cohort has made the least. Allred commented that the cohort one high schools making the least progress have been in assistance the longest (three years) and noted most of these are located in Jefferson County.

The full report on the progress of Priority Schools is located on the board's online site at <http://portal.ksba.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&PublicMeetingID=8464&AgencyTypeID=1> under agenda item XVIII.

For more information on this topic, contact Associate Commissioner Susan Allred at (502) 564-5130 or via e-mail at susang.allred@education.ky.gov.

BOARD APPROVES KHSAA RECOMMENDATIONS RESULTING FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS REPORT

Kentucky High School Athletics Association (KHSAA) Commissioner Julian Tackett appeared before the Kentucky Board of Education to present recommendations on middle school athletics issues in response to the policy considerations that came forth from the Task Force on Middle School Interscholastic Athletics. It was noted that this Task Force was established by the General Assembly in 2012 and was required to make recommendations to the legislature by

December 7, 2012. Tackett was a member of the 17-member task force made up of legislators and citizens currently or previously involved in school athletic competition.

The Task Force report contained 11 policy considerations. Commissioner Tackett recommended to the board that the best course of action for the majority of the policy considerations is to form a Middle School Advisory Committee to address them. He stated that proposed amendments to the regulation that governs KHSAA (702 KAR 7:065) can be used to address the primary points of concern highlighted by the Task Force and immediately implement steps in those areas deemed to be health and safety related including coaches requirements, medical training and policies, limits on games and competitions and the requirement for sports physicals.

The board approved KHSAA's recommendations on how to deal with the Task Force's policy considerations. To see the response to each policy consideration, go to the board's online site at <http://portal.ksba.org/public/Meeting.aspx?PublicAgencyID=4388&PublicMeetingID=8464&AgencyTypeID=1> and scroll down to agenda item XXII.B.1.

For more information on the work relative to middle school athletics, contact Julian Tackett at (859) 299-5472 or via e-mail at jtackett@khsaa.org.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING WERE:

- Minutes from the December 5, 2012 meeting
- Statements of Consideration for 702 KAR 5:140, Districts of Innovation; 702 KAR 3:130, Internal Accounting; and 704 KAR 3:095, Response to Intervention
- 703 KAR 5:250, Intervention options in Priority Schools/Districts
- 703 KAR 5:121, Repeal of 703 KAR 5:120, Assistance to schools, guidelines for scholastic audit
- 703 KAR 5:181, Repeal of 703 KAR 5:180, Intervention System for persistently low-achieving schools
- Facility plans for Carlisle, Daviess and Fayette County School Districts
- Non-approval of the Monticello Independent working budget
- Tax rate levied for Monticello Independent
- Conditional site approval for the proposed Phelps High School Athletic Fields
- Travel for Brigitte Ramsey to the NASBE Legislative Conference and NASBE Study Group meetings

OTHER ITEMS REVIEWED WITH NO ACTION TAKEN WERE:

- Strategic Plan Update
- Status update on the Breathitt County School District
- Status update on the Monticello Independent School District
- Elementary and secondary legislation update
- Hearing Officer's Report
- 702 KAR 7:065, Designation of Agent to Manage High School Interscholastic Athletics and Revisions to the KHSAA Bylaws (First Reading)
- KDE Employment Report (All offices except Career and Technical Education)
- KDE Employment Report (Office of Career and Technical Education)

KBE MEETING DATES

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April 10, 2013	Regular meeting	Frankfort
June 5, 2013	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 7-8, 2013	KBE Retreat meeting & Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 8, 2013	Regular meeting	Frankfort
December 4, 2013	Regular meeting	Frankfort

For questions on meeting dates, contact Mary Ann Miller at 502-564-3141 or via e-mail at MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov.

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the February 6, 2013, regular meeting conducted in the State Board Room, Capital Plaza Tower, 1st Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board of Education, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

For additional information about the Kentucky Board of Education meetings, agendas, minutes or special accommodations needed for attending meetings, contact Mary Ann Miller, Policy Advisor, at (502) 564-3141.

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